

Date: November 2018

Dear Colleague,

FREE SURVEY SUPPORTING THE WELL-BEING OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN ESSEX

I am **seeking your support for the collection of information on the well-being of children and young people** in Essex. The research will again be undertaken for us by the Schools Health Education Unit (SHEU), an organisation which has significant experience in this area of work.

Essex is now in its eleventh year of delivering the SHEU survey and we are building a good knowledge of trends. Last year the response rate reached over 16,000 respondents.

Although schools are asked to take part on a voluntary basis, the data collected from this source is extensively used to support the development of service design, delivery, governance and evaluation. **Using this data ensures the thoughts, feelings, views and experiences of our children and young people are at the heart of our work with them.** Equally, it contributes to our understanding of children's wellbeing and enables the delivery of statutory responsibility to promote and monitor this. Through the SHEU survey, we are able to ensure that Essex organisational outcomes are based on the needs of Essex children and young people.

The survey can be carried out either online or on paper. Schools should **survey every pupil in one class from years 4 to 13** (larger schools may wish to sample within several year groups if it is not thought to be efficient to survey a whole year group). **Schools will then receive their own individual data set and a comprehensive report** comparing their own results to the wider Essex sample. This allows schools to evaluate if any of their action/interventions is having a positive impact and **provides good evidence for Ofsted**. Feedback from schools has been positive, with praise for both the **ease of administration** of the survey, and the value of the results. Headteachers have informed us that the outcomes of the survey are useful in **shaping PSHE provision**, preparing school development plans, and for **self-evaluation**. In addition, schools have fed back that it is a helpful resource in ensuring young people's needs are met, and some are using the insight towards their Healthy Schools benchmarking.

I would be grateful, therefore, if you could **register your interest at the following link**, by **Wednesday 12th December 2018**: www.schoolsurveys.co.uk/essex

The survey will be open from mid-January to March 2019.

Please contact admin@sheu.org.uk for any queries you may have about the survey.

Yours sincerely



Clare Kershaw
Director of Education

Please reply to Charlene Bright

Telephone: 01392 667272

Email: admin@sheu.org.uk

2019 Registration

- Register your interest to take part here: www.schoolsurveys.co.uk/essex
- Contact admin@sheu.org.uk if you have any general queries about the survey
- The survey will run in the Spring Term between **mid-January to March 2019**.
- Once registered, at the beginning of term you will receive a co-ordinators letter and a guidance pack on how to carry out the survey. You will also receive a paper copy of the questionnaire in the pack to hold in your school office in case any parents would like to view it, by appointment.
- The Schools Health and Wellbeing Unit (SHEU) will be supporting you during the completion of the survey on behalf of Essex County Council. If you have any problems or questions please contact SHEU directly: tel. 01392 667272 or admin@sheu.org.uk
- An alternative version of the survey has been developed for pupils with special educational needs. This will be available both online and paper.

Confidentiality and anonymity

- All responses to the survey will be anonymous. School names will not appear in any reports prepared by the Local Authority.
- All information collected will be held securely.
- If any pupil discloses information within the survey that raises concerns about safety, and where other responses within the survey make it possible for the person to be identified, the Schools Health Education Unit will have a duty to pass on this information to you for further follow up.

Reports

- Schools that take part will receive their own report. County level and district level reports, as well as samples of the actual questionnaires, can be viewed on Schools InfoLink: <https://schools.essex.gov.uk/data/SHEU/Pages/SHEUSurveySupportingTheWellbeingOfChildrenAnd.aspx>

